

TREASURE

OUR

massachusetts

COASTS

and

ESTUARIES

miles of coastline
1,519

coastal population in 2000
4,783,167

fy03 czma core (section 306)
funding
\$2,000,000

fy03 czma enhancements
(section 309) funding
\$418,000

fy03 coastal nonpoint
implementation
\$446,000

fy03 national estuarine research
reserve operations, education,
monitoring and stewardship
\$555,000

fy03 national estuarine research
reserve land acquisition and
construction
\$1,490,200

MASSACHUSETTS' TOURISM, FISHING, SHIPPING, AND AQUACULTURE INDUSTRIES DEPEND ON THE COAST. BASED ON CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATES, AQUACULTURE ALONE ANNUALLY PROVIDES AT LEAST A \$10 MILLION TO THE ECONOMY. THIS GROWTH INDUSTRY REQUIRES CLEAN MARINE AND ESTUARINE WATERS AND QUALITY HABITAT. THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT (CZMA) PROVIDES THE FRAMEWORK NECESSARY TO SUSTAIN THE ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL VALUE OF THESE COASTAL AREAS.

THIS LAW, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA), RECOGNIZES A NATIONAL INTEREST IN OUR COASTAL AND OCEAN AREAS. IT ALLOWS STATES AND TERRITORIES, NOT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, TO DETERMINE HOW BEST TO BALANCE CONSERVATION OF THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT WITH HUMAN USES THAT DEPEND ON COASTAL RESOURCES.

THE CZMA IN MASSACHUSETTS

The CZMA establishes two programs to balance the use and protection of America's coasts. The Coastal Management Program gives states a flexible framework to address a broad range of community development, economic, and natural resource issues at the state and local level. The National Estuarine Research Reserve System protects key coastal areas for long-term scientific study, education, and resource stewardship.

Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Program

Approved: 1978

Lead Agency: Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

Because of the beauty and bounty of the coast, many different interests compete for use of coastal resources. Massachusetts' coastal program must balance the competing challenges of dredging and dredge material disposal, coastal erosion, runoff pollution, public access, ocean resource management, port revitalization and harbor planning.

Accomplishments of the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Program include:

- *creating a Coastal Zone Management Register of Protected Coastal Accessways to keep track of shoreline access entitlements that have been secured for the public, and producing a Massachusetts Coast Guide that contains maps to nearly 400 coastal access sites.*

- *leading the production of an Aquaculture Strategic Plan that forms a framework to encourage growth of the aquaculture industry and helping fund an effort to streamline permitting for offshore aquaculture.*
- *providing technical assistance to towns to help reduce nonpoint sources of pollution.*
- *developing The Storm Water Management Policy to protect resources from potential stormwater impacts.*
- *developing The Massachusetts Marina Environmental Guidebook, which outlines management practices for marina operators, local officials, and regulators.*
- *administering the Coastal Pollutant Remediation Program, which makes funding available to municipalities in Massachusetts coastal watersheds. These grants can be used to reduce transportation-related polluted runoff.*

Massachusetts' National Estuarine Research Reserve Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

Designated: 1988

Lead Agency: Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation

The Waquoit Bay Reserve is one of a national network of coastal protected areas that conducts an integrated program of science, education, and resource stewardship. The reserve system is a partnership between NOAA and the states.

Waquoit Bay Reserve encompasses open waters, barrier beaches, marshlands, and uplands on the south shore of Cape Cod, including Washburn Island and South Cape Beach State Park.

RESEARCH: Each year the more than 30 research projects at the Waquoit Bay Reserve focus on a variety of issues that are important to the region. Particular attention is paid to nonpoint source pollution because population growth along the coast has increased the amount of nitrogen entering coastal waters. To address this and other issues, reserve scientists collaborate with many outside biologists, chemists, geologists, and hydrologists from a variety of institutions, including the Marine Biological Laboratory and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH: Reserve staff translates research to coastal decision makers and the public through a variety of means. Coastal decisionmaker workshops are conducted for resource managers, municipal offices, citizen water quality monitors, and many other groups, such as landscape professionals and real estate agents, through the Massachusetts Coastal Training Program. Community courses are offered on topics ranging from groundwater dynamics to green home practices, ecological gardening techniques, and climate change. Reserve staff also works with local schools through teacher training, and consulting to implement curriculum on coastal topics. Science and policy bulletins, newsletters, pamphlets, and other publications are available.

PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION

Citizens for the Protection of Waquoit Bay is the official friends group for the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. More than 100 volunteers aid the Reserve in its mission of coastal stewardship, research and education. Reserve staff serves on many community, regional, and state committees and form specific partnerships to help find solutions to coastal issues.